

The Book Factory

By EDWARD ANTHONY.
CONVINCING THE DOUBTERS.

"A powerful novel full of beauty and simplicity." . . . "A stirring adventure tale." . . . "Shows this well known writer at his most brilliant." . . . "A gem of pure American-Mexican desert romance." . . . "One of the greatest biographies of our time." . . . "Brilliant and entertaining." . . . "Written with remarkable intuition and delicacy." . . . "Gigantic and thrilling." . . . "A glorious romance." . . . "Brilliant, audacious, humorous." . . . "Delightful." . . . "A big story." . . . "Truly this is an American epic." . . . "A remarkable first novel." . . . "Another great adventure yarn." . . . "A delightfully amusing, quixotic and sparkling romance." . . . "Divinely funny." . . . "Another book by this versatile genius." . . . "A story told with a skill few can equal." . . . "Astounding story." . . . "A first novel by a new author who is among the handful who can truly present and interpret American society." . . . "Wonderfully compelling." . . . "The literary sensation of the fall." . . . "Monumental." . . . "A story of the Kentucky mountains which forms a remarkable and impressive allegory." . . . "A great piece of story telling." . . . "A brilliant phantasmagoria of human life." . . . "Hilariously funny." . . . "Amazing and revealing."

—From Publishers Announcements of Fall Books.

Down with the bellyaching pack
Who plaintively declare
That in the U. S. there's a lack
Of writers who are There:

That this fair nation does not boast
Great artists in abundance;
That of bush leaguers we've a most
Ridiculous redundancy.

The grumbling fools! 'Twill knock 'em flat
When gloatingly I show 'em
The items that are quoted at
The opening of this poem!

How will they dare again to pan
American literature
Since those who make it, to a man,
Are artists skilled and sure?

"Remarkable." . . . "Delightful." . . . "Fine." . . .
"Astounding." . . . "Big." . . . "Compelling." . . .
"Amazing." . . . "Wonderful." . . . "Divine." . . .
"Great piece of story telling." . . .

Detractors, what's your answer, pray?
I'm sure you all must know
There's not a publisher who'd say
A thing that isn't so.

MR. WELLS AGAIN.

"He has the happy satisfaction of knowing that though the professors may rage the plain folk read him gladly," says *Art and Archaeology* of H. G. Wells.

A correction, please. The professors do both. First they read then they rage. Perhaps this will increase Mr. Wells's satisfaction.

We'd have enjoyed reading Nietzsche, author of a celebrated super-manual, on the downfall of Morvich, the well known super-horse.

NEGLECTED FICTION.

"The Truth About Vignolles," by Albert Kinross.

"Explorers of the Dawn," by Mazo de la Roche.

"In the Morning of Time" by Charles G. D. Roberts.

Why those books (published during the last year or so) didn't receive more attention is beyond us. A year ago we were puzzled by the failure of Romain Rolland's "Colas Breugnot" and Harvey O'Higgins's "From the Life" (among others) to make a dent. We hope that O'Higgins's "Some Distinguished Americans" another—and even better—series of character studies in short story form will have better luck than "From the Life."

Many good books receive comparatively little recognition. The Babbitts of the book world will tell you that Good Workmanship Is Always Rewarded. Perhaps they mean in Heaven.

Pardon us a bit of pessimism this morning. We just broke our glasses.

"CERTAIN PEOPLE OF IMPORTANCE."

(By Kathleen Norris.)

Five hundred pages that should be
Three hundred fifty yet
It is a strange verbiage
That somehow does not get
This writer's goat so his advice,
Administered in rhyme,
Is read it—even read it twice—
If you have lots of time.

"Certain People of Importance" is a local train. It's a long time getting anywhere—and sometimes you catch yourself looking out of the window. But it finally arrives at its destination and as you alight it suddenly dawns upon you that you've had a rather pleasant journey after all.

BOOK PEDDLING.

"But mama—you couldn't peddle books!"
"I couldn't peddle books, no. But if I did," said Lucy, "I certainly could earn more than Ida Cullen."

—From "Certain People of Importance."

We don't know about that, Lucy. It would all depend on how soon you tired of hearing the maid say, "The missus is out." We tried book peddling some years ago—and we know. "The missus" used to be "out" in nine cases out of—no not ten—nine. Once we struck a missus who was in and the shock was so great that we forgot our elegant set speech and didn't make much headway. For the sake of the book peddlers of the land we hope that the philosophy of A. S. M. Hutchinson's "This Freedom" (which insists that woman's place is the home) will take hold.

THOUGHTLET.

Even the worst skeptic will have to concede after reading Alfred Noyes's "Watchers of the Skies," that this lyricist, when he wants to be, is an epic-making poet.

TITULAR MOUTHFULS.

I.

An interesting dissertation
That should increase your information,
Providing that with care you sieve it,
Is "A Student's Introduction to the Phase Rule and the Study of Heterogeneous Equilibria," by A. C. D. Rivett.

II.

If you have any friends who deem
The minerals a sprightly theme
Just place on Christmas in their box
Some copies of Albert Johannsen's "Essentials for the Microscopical De-

termination of Rock Forming Minerals and Rocks."

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WHICH SHALL WE READ FIRST?

One of our favorite publishers lists some of his books under the heading "Important New Novels," and another batch under "Fiction of Note." And until some one tells us which is more important we won't know which bunch to start reading first.

INJUNCTION.

We're writing this couplet to tell everyone
To grab Fred O'Brien's "Atolls of the Sun."
Authors of first novels don't make much money
But second story men frequently do.

....

Wee Shane Campbell, hero of Donny Byrne's excellent romance, "The Wind Bloweth," is no piker lover. Before you know it he has fallen in love with Moyra, Claire Anne, Fenzile and Hedda—and his method is so interesting that you never tire of his exploits. His technique is well-nigh perfect.

If Charles Abbott of "The Bright Shawl" had anything of Campbell in him, the new Hergesheimer book would be a more zestful romance (though it must be added that it is interesting and well worth reading). The trouble with Charles is that he isn't sufficiently interested in the ladies. As himself says: "The only thing I care for is politics and the cause of justice and freedom." That is very noble of Charles, but he'd be more interesting if he took an interest in the ladies.

WARNING.

Eschew this bromide, authors,
Unless you'd die:
"A figure silhouetted
Against the sky."

....

Nowadays a novel that does not contain at least one figure "Silhouetted Against the Sky" is as rare as a murderless mystery story.

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A contemporary refers to slushy novels as literature. If still another tag is desired, how about Harold Bell Wright's "Or Caine sugar?"

A Child's Story Of American Literature

Continued from Page Two.

istence. The same important service of formed by the newspapers.

It was as early as the sixteen-nineties that their long procession began. At first they were very small, and were published weekly; the editors were unpaid and more often than not lost the money they had put into the enterprise. But the papers gave the widely separated colonies news of each other, and their rather rough-and-tumble rivalries fostered the spirit of fellowship, just as the football teams of today bring closer together schools that otherwise might never hear of each other. Ben Franklin records that he himself saw established before the Revolution thirty-seven newspapers, some of them dailies. But astonishing as this was in so young and unsettled a country, there was one thing even more astonishing. This was the ambitious attempt to establish magazines. In 1741, the first two were begun in Philadelphia only three days apart. Franklin said that the man who established his first had taken the idea and even the plans from him; and if this was so, he had the satisfaction of seeing his own live several months longer even if both died of starvation the very first year. All of these gallant attempts were short-lived, but they served a great purpose even if their makers did not know it at the time. Between the first two attempts and the end of the century at least forty-five magazines were started. Many of them were religious ones, of course, but there were two which the old Puritans would have thought very far from their stern religion, indeed. They might have had some sympathy with a military magazine, which was included in the number, but with a children's magazine and with a musical magazine, never!

The writings of the Puritans do not suffer much in comparison with all but the best work of their kind produced in England during their time, but it was in the establishment of colleges and magazines that the colonies laid the chief foundation for the American literature to come.

In the Days of Poor Richard

IRVING BACHELLER

gives us a love story that incarnates the spirit of the struggle for independence. Something is happening or about to happen all the time and the events are always vigorous full-fledged man-sized action. Each has its own thrill, its own doubt as to outcome, its own suspense, and the incidents follow logically each upon the heels of another so that the reader's interest is kept at pitch.

But it is as a vital historical picture that the book has its greatest interest and its greatest worth. Within the compass of four hundred pages it presents an impressive resume, vitalized by the passions and emotions and spirit of our years of national birth.

—New York Times

Bobbs-Merrill, Publishers

The Chicago Daily News says of

HONORE WILLSIE'S New Novel of the West

"A strong and vivid book about real men and women. It moves ahead relentlessly and takes you with it."

\$2.00

JUDITH OF THE GODLESS VALLEY

By the Author of

"The Enchanted Canyon"
STOKES, Publishers

The PERSONAL TOUCH

by Emma Beatrice Brunner
(Mrs. Arnold W. Brunner)

"Good-natured satire and straight entertainment."—Literary Digest.

"Entertaining and well-told story."—N. Y. Times.

"Far out of the usual. Somewhere between Stevenson's 'New Arabian Nights' and 'Alice in Wonderland.'"—N. Y. Herald.

"Unique plot. Well worth reading."—Phila. Public Ledger.

At Bookstores \$1.90

Publisher BRENTANO'S New York

